

# THE TIMES

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1902.

## MR. WISE'S POOR EXHIBIT.

Mr. John S. Wise cannot overthrow the Virginia Constitution by hurling at it glittering generalities. He must show that some citizen or citizens have been unlawfully deprived of their right to register and vote under the new suffrage clause. This he has attempted to show in his bill of complaint, but he makes a poor exhibit. It is alleged that a colored resident of Richmond applied for registration and was refused, although he owned and paid taxes on real estate valued at \$1,000; that another colored resident applied for registration and was refused, although he was an honorably discharged veteran; that another colored resident applied and was refused under the understanding clause, although he was an educated teacher and a graduate of the Normal School.

It would appear on the face of it that all these applicants were entitled to register, and if the facts are as alleged they should have appeared to court, as the law provides. It is expressly provided in section 19 of the Constitution that any person desiring registration under that section shall have the right of appeal to the circuit court of his county or the corporation court of his city, or the judge thereof in vacation. Why did not these complainants exercise that privilege and so seek to redress their wrong? One of them assigns as a reason that he did not believe he would get justice if he should appeal. This is an insult to an honorable Virginia judge, but no matter what he believed, it was his duty to exhaust the remedies provided by the State before making an appeal to a Federal court.

For that reason, if for no other, we do not believe that three complaints against the State of Virginia will have any standing in the Federal courts. It seems to us little short of an indignity to drag high officials of this sovereign State before a United States judge upon the complaint of several negroes that they suffered a wrong, and did not employ the simple remedy which the Constitution provides, and that, too, on the offensive plea of one of them that he did not believe he could get justice in a Virginia court.

It is enough to arouse the indignation of the people of Virginia, and that, in our opinion, is all that it will do.

## PRESIDENT AND CITIZEN.

In a statement which President Mitchell made to the Anthracite Arbitration Commission he declared that "it was the United Mine Workers of America that conferred with the President of the United States in relation to the submission of the issues involved in the coal strike to this Commission; it was the United Mine Workers of America that requested by the President to end the strike; it was the United Mine Workers of America that declared the strike at an end; it was the United Mine Workers of America that sent the men back to work, and it was the United Mine Workers of America that is pledged to accept the award of this Commission."

The New York Sun tells Mr. Mitchell that this declaration is based upon a misapprehension in regard to the proceedings which resulted in the appointment of the Arbitration Commission. It assumes, says the Sun, that the arbitration possesses an official character sanctioned by law, but that such assumption is very far from the truth. The Sun reminds Mr. Mitchell that the President of the United States as such had nothing to do with settling the strike; that it was Theodore Roosevelt, the citizen, who called the conference and who finally, at the request of the parties to the dispute, appointed the Commission. The Sun also says that this Commission has no legal status whatever; that it has no power to summon witnesses and compel them to testify and no power to enforce its decision, whatever that may be. That when the decision is rendered either party is entirely at liberty, so far as the law is concerned, to disregard it. That neither the President nor any other officer of the nation or of any State can compel obedience to the determination of the Commission.

The Sun states the exact truth, yet how many people are there who take this view? It is very hard to dissociate Citizen Roosevelt from President Roosevelt. It is very hard to make the general public understand that Mr. Roosevelt was acting as a mere citizen and not as the President of the United States when he called this conference. Suppose President McKinley were still alive, and suppose Mr. Roosevelt instead of being President at the time had been a citizen without office: does anybody believe that the mine operators and Mr. Mitchell would have seriously considered his request for a conference? It is extremely doubtful if they would have attended the conference and it is almost certain that they would not have agreed to submit their case to any commission which Mr. Roosevelt, as a citizen, might select. It is just here that the danger of the President's interference comes in. If he had been a plain citizen there would have been no impropriety whatever in his trying to bring the mine operators and their men together. There was no impropriety whatever in the endeavors of the Civic Federation, for that organization is merely a body of citizens and has no official standing.

It was quite another thing when the President of the United States inter-

fered, and the country has not heard the last of it. There is a disposition on the part of a large number of people in this day and generation to run to the government with every dispute and to seek the aid of government in settling purely private disputes, which should be settled among themselves. We venture that nine-tenths of the people throughout the United States to-day are under the impression that it was President Roosevelt, and not Citizen Roosevelt, who called this conference and who appointed the commission, and when there is another big strike these people will again call on the President to settle it.

## AN ABSURD BILL.

Referring to the bill that has been introduced in the General Assembly making it unlawful for any employer to discharge an employee because he belongs to a labor union, the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot says:

Now, no sane man questions the right of any citizen to join a labor union. He is absolutely free to do so. Public opinion will uphold him in doing so. In doing so he will only exercise his rights as a free man and American citizen. But it is also coming time to say that the employer is also a free man and has a right to say whom he will employ and whom he will not. And when the attempt is made to deprive him of that right by legislation it is opportune that sensible men protest.

We hold that the public may legitimately interfere in the quarrels between labor and capital where the public interest is jeopardized. Further than that the State may not go, and will not be permitted to go.

Aye, there's the trouble. When government interference once begins, where will it stop? The road old Democratic doctrine of no meddling is best and safest. It was good enough for the patriarchs, and it is good enough for us.

As for the bill to which our contemporary refers it is too absurd to be seriously considered. Why not make it unlawful for an employer to discharge an employee because he does not belong to a labor union? Why not make it unlawful to discharge a man because he belongs to a temperance society, or a social club, or because he does not belong to such institutions? But suppose the bill in question should pass, how would the law be enforced? How could it be established that an employee was dismissed because he belonged to a labor union? Would the employer, if he failed on the spot to assign a reason, be hauled up in court and be made to testify against himself?

## EDUCATION IN GEORGIA.

A member of the Georgia Legislature has introduced a special appropriation bill to give \$25,000 for a new building at the State Normal School of Athens. "If the appropriation is made," says the Atlanta Constitution, "it will at once be supplemented by the promised donation of \$10,000 by Mr. George Foster Peabody, of New York. While \$35,000 is actually needed, the normal school will be glad to confine the cost and equipment of the building to the \$35,000 from the State and its liberal son, Mr. Peabody."

Here is another of the practical results of the Southern Conference for Education at Athens last spring. The conference met at the Normal School on Confederate Memorial Day and it was then announced that the General Education Board would make several conditional gifts to the institution, one of which was to the Winnie Davis Society. Mr. Peabody also gave \$50,000 for a new building at the University of Georgia.

That is that kind of work the General Education Board is doing. It is not organizing new schools on its own account. It has no special agents in the South. It is working with the regular school authorities, and it is contributing through the regular channels, to the schools already in existence.

## ADVERTISE VIRGINIA.

A bill will be introduced to-day in the House of Delegates appropriating \$50,000 for a Virginia exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition and we hope it will pass.

Virginia cannot afford not to be represented at that great show. She would be most conspicuous by her absence, and the lack of an exhibit would be a poor advertisement indeed of her progress. She has as much as any State in the Union to advertise and it would be suicidal for her to lose this opportunity.

The exhibit for the St. Louis Exposition could be made a permanent exhibit for Virginia and kept in Richmond or some other city for inspection. It would also be in readiness for the Jamestown Exposition, which comes along a few years later. Some articles would be perishable, but the great bulk of the exhibit would last indefinitely.

Virginia is no longer a relic State. It is a living, progressive, up-to-date State and we should take advantage of the St. Louis show to let the world know it.

## RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

We are gratified to see that the Methodist Conference in session in Richmond and the Baptist Convention in session in Norfolk are devoting much of their time to the discussion of the question of education.

Education is the handmaiden of the church. There was a time when the church authorities were disposed to keep the membership as much as possible in ignorance. These were the days of superstitious and while the church as an organization flourished it did very little for the promotion of piety among its members.

In this day the church seeks to promote individual piety and appeals to reason rather than to superstition. True religion is not superstition, but common sense, and the better educated the members of the church are the more they will grow in grace and the more the cause of religion will prosper.

The Bible is an open book and challenges investigation. It is not afraid of intelligence; it is more afraid of ignorance, and so the church helps itself and helps the cause which it represents when it helps to educate the masses.

It is alleged that American women pay eight million dollars a year for chewing gum, but we are not required to believe the allegation.

If the work continues in St. Louis among

the millionaire hoodlums, the Missouri penitentiary will be the swiftest place in the State of a few years to come.

Chicago is getting better, according to a local paper, which claims that "hold ups" in that city now average only six a day, and murders only two.

Every intelligent hobo in the country has become a millionaire in disguise since that Kansas girl was left a large sum by a man whom she befriended as a tramp.

Camp will be broken in the Mississippi canals to-day, and the Wall Street bears will get on their good behavior.

The Governor of Arkansas, who joined the hunters in the canals, contributed all the snake-bite medicine to the commissary department.

It was a long time coming, but it is here; the inevitable split in the Mormon Church, and all the other churches will wish for a Kilkenney cat performance.

The bouquet act is about to open in the Boston "Jack the Sluggard" case.

A dust-laying rain seems to be striving to get on the thanksgiving list in time for next Thursday.

It would be wonderful if there are not quite a number of disappointments on the Bishop's appointment list due to-day or to-morrow.

The Culpeper Enterprise is a little previous. It has placed at the mast-head the name of Arthur P. Gorman for President.

It looks as if the candidates for the Speakership will continue to follow Congressman Babcock into retirement until Joe Cannon shall be left alone on the firing line.

The Atlanta Journal says all the progressive members of the Georgia Legislature favor a large appropriation for a State exhibit at St. Louis. Same way in Virginia, but a roll of the progressives has not yet been made up.

The cold wave is again in a mildly threatening humor with some inclination to dodge the issue again.

Just what kind of a whale stands in readiness to swallow "Jonah Bill" when the Albany Argus gets him well over the rail we are not at present advised.

It will be a pity if President Roosevelt shall spoil a good colored school teacher to make a sorry politician, Booker Washington should not allow it.

"Were I the devil I would bar all negroes from hell," says the Rev. Thomas Dixon. What a cool snap that would be for the negro.

## An Hour With Virginia Editors

The Louisa News sustains a contention of The Times in the following:

"They are partridges and not quails in Virginia, and you had better not call our Bob Whites quails any more."

The Franklin Graphic says:

"Judge Rhea has acted wisely and for the best interest of his party, and while we are not a calamity, the people of the Ninth District did not think so, and their right to choose for themselves is sacred, and if they have made a mistake, the burden will be upon them. Fight hard and gallant, but when you get whipped take your medicine like a man."

Along the same line the Rockingham Register speaks out as follows:

"The unanimity with which the newspapers of Virginia have demanded a fair deal between Colonel Slem and Judge Rhea in the Ninth District is gratifying evidence that the decalogue still has a place even in politics in Virginia."

What is the matter with the Portsmouth Star? Listen to this:

"Jurists should go out of fashion. They have lasted too long. They have ceased to serve a good purpose. The dangers to the people which called them into existence are no longer threatening. The reason for jurists to try men accused of crime or misdemeanors do not exist now, and the jurist is not only an anachronism, but it always was a barbarism."

The Irvington Citizen says:

"It may be said in connection with the coming St. Louis Exposition that Virginia should do her full duty on account of the moral effect it will have on the Southern States. But laying aside all sentiment and State pride, and considering it strictly in the light of a business proposition, a liberal appropriation by the Legislature would be repaid many fold within the next few years."

Short Talks to the Legislature.

Norfolk County Democrat: "Yes, the present General Assembly has an important work to do, and we trust that having that work will be performed in a spirit of enlightened patriotism and of unwavering loyalty to the State that will be in accordance with the traditions of Virginia."

Accomac News: "Fair and equal assessment of property, and equal taxation, according to the class and value subjects assessed and taxed, is what the people demand, and any system the Legislature may adopt to secure that end will meet the demands of the fair-minded and honest people of this State. On the contrary, any result that will tend to continue the present inequitable system, whereby an honest man is virtually taxed twice, and the wealthy and powerful few are not so taxed, should and will be repudiated by all fair-minded men."

Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser: "Some of our esteemed Virginia contemporaries are already dodging over to the Intimacy of the present session of the Legislature will last at least nine months. Some of them seem to think that even a good thing can be overdone."

Remarks About Richmond.

Staunton News: "The teachers of Richmond have asked the School Board for an increase in salaries. Notwithstanding the enhanced cost of living, teachers have received no increase, but are still receiving the same old salaries, which are entirely out of proportion to the labor and responsibilities incident to the position. No class is so underpaid as teachers."

Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser: "The citizens of Richmond on the James' are rejoicing at the prospect of soon having pure water to drink instead of having the water of the James River, which is pure and good, but is still receiving the same old salaries, which are entirely out of proportion to the labor and responsibilities incident to the position. No class is so underpaid as teachers."

## Social and Personal.

Picking turkey bones—gibbling and snoring with gusto—is not considered as genteel by some people as the overdone attempt at eating custard pudding with a fork.

The time to change from fork to spoon is not when you catch the glint of jelly and blancmange oozing through the prongs and skating off your spoon, or when the blood-red rose of cranberry sauce gards your vicinity of the linen cloth, or when with the pie-crust you have broken a prong or two—not when you see people are smiling at your own endeavor to be as good as you can, or to you that possibly you do look ridiculous—not when you begin to blush and appear self-conscious—not then, but now. Decide this minute.

## Richmond Wedding Bells.

Miss Louise Helen Edelblut, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Edelblut, and Mr. Joseph J. Miller will be married at 6:30 P. M. to-day in St. Peter's Catholic Church by the Rev. Father Williams. The bride will be handsomely grouped with palms, and the music will be directed by Miss Margaret Ryan.

The best man will be Mr. George H. Edelblut, the brother of the bride. Ushers will include Mr. Joseph L. Miller, the groom's nephew; Mr. William Sorg, Mr. Edward Hulcher, Mr. Charles Gregory, Mr. John Kusterer, Mr. Frank Overman and Mr. William Hecker.

The bride will be escorted by Mr. George H. Edelblut, the brother of the bride. Ushers will include Mr. Joseph L. Miller, the groom's nephew; Mr. William Sorg, Mr. Edward Hulcher, Mr. Charles Gregory, Mr. John Kusterer, Mr. Frank Overman and Mr. William Hecker.

The ceremony will be followed by a reception given in the home of the bride's parents, No. 1013 West Main Street.

The wedding of Miss Fannie Lewis Farrow and Mr. John W. Yarbrough was solemnized at 6:30 P. M. yesterday in the Church of the Covenant, the Rev. Dr. Calvin Stewart, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Robert A. Goodwin, of St. John's Episcopal Church, being officiating.

The bride, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Farrow, was escorted by Mr. John H. Farrow, her brother. The groom was escorted by Mr. John W. Yarbrough, his brother.

The wedding of Miss Nellie Lea Wise and Mr. Frank S. Bullington will take place at 7:30 o'clock to-day in the Church of the Covenant, the Rev. Dr. Calvin Stewart, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Robert A. Goodwin, of St. John's Episcopal Church, being officiating.

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Wall Street brokers, and is a success in social and business life.

Miss Mary Johnston gave a dinner Sunday to the cast of "Audrey," in her home on East Grace Street.

Mr. and Mrs. William James Walker and Miss Annie Rose Walker left last night for Denver, Colorado, to be absent some time.

Mr. Henry Baskerville gave a supper to his friends at the Commonwealth Club last Saturday night. Covers were laid for fourteen, and decorations were American beauties. Mr. F. W. Scott, Mr. William Massie, Mr. Frank Davenport, Mr. Bryant Tennant, Mr. Edward Davenport and Dr. Stuart McGuire were among those present.

Mrs. W. L. Gillaudeu, the wife of Mr. W. L. Gillaudeu, the president of the Old Dominion Steamship Co., is the guest of Mrs. Herbert Funsten, of No. 119 West Grace Street.

Miss Cornelia Watkins will be one of the attractive hostesses of Thanksgiving Day. She will have with her Miss Mary Carter Myers, of Norfolk, and Miss Louise Watkins, of Richmond, and Miss Pennsylvania, will also be here at that time.

Miss Louise Selden, of Goochland, is visiting Miss Helen Stevens.

OUR CITY WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Bolling Replies to the Criticism of Mr. Griswold.

To the Editor of The Times:

Sir—My attention has been called to a communication in The Times of Saturday, November 15th, signed by General Inspector P. M. Griswold, of the Home Insurance Company, purporting to be a reply to a letter I sent the Insurance Press, and published in that paper July 16th. This same article was also published in the Richmond papers, and about that time, I described fully the condition of the water department, especially the distributing mains, and method of distributing that I deem it unnecessary now to repeat. It was written with a view of portraying the exact condition to all who might be interested.

It has never been claimed by me that Richmond had perfect and complete fire protection. I know of no city in the United States which has such a system. I do claim that Richmond is far above the average city in the large one at each intersection of the fire-loses for the past twelve years will prove that. It is true that the losses were heavy here in the years 1900 and 1901. It is true that they were heavy in a large number of other cities. It should be remembered that Richmond's water was not connected with the city at that time and for many years thereafter no special provision was made for fire service. As the demand for this protection from fire presented itself, the means or money for constructing were very limited, but the Committee on Water have expended such appropriation as they had to the best advantage, and from year to year have done the best with the money placed in their hands for extensions and additions.

Mr. Griswold's descriptions of our condition in this and former communications are not in accordance with the facts. For example, he states that the fire hydrants on Cary and on Broad Streets are connected to the 3- and 6-inch mains. He fails to state that in each case the small mains are paralleled by large ones, and are connected to the large one at each intersecting street, and thereby they are supplied from the large main. Several of these fire hydrants have been tried in the presence of the Water Committee and Fire Commissioners, using our largest fire engines; an abundance of water has been given, and all present were satisfied. This was proved, not surmise. I see from his letter, however, Mr. Griswold still adheres to his theory and assertions. A committee of the old Council, appointed to look into these conditions, have made considerable investigation, and the line of our protection from fire loss, and when their report is submitted I feel assured that much of the uneasiness which has been excited in the minds of some by just such assertions as Mr. Griswold's will be dispelled. This same Mr. Griswold some months since addressed the city of Richmond on the subject of fire protection, and yet he proceeds to criticize our present condition, and my administration as such an expert. I only wish to state for myself that I feel indifferent to his personal criticism, and am willing to leave to those who wish charge of my office, and any expert hydraulic engineer my past record and recommendations while acting as Superintendent of Water Works. I do wish to state emphatically that when he asserts that he has made considerable investigation, and the line of our protection from fire loss, and when their report is submitted I feel assured that much of the uneasiness which has been excited in the minds of some by just such assertions as Mr. Griswold's will be dispelled.

Having published a full history of Richmond's water works, before I ever met Mr. Griswold, and in each annual report given all the information that I could give, I deemed it necessary, in order that all might understand, and having recorded on the maps all mains, fire hydrants, etc., it would be absurd for me to make statements to him at variance with those records. I would call attention to the large number of successful insurance companies in Richmond, whose agents and managers are certainly intelligent men, and alive to the interests of their companies. These gentlemen do not seem to stand in the same dread and anxiety as to Richmond's protection, and still seek insurance risks among our manufacturers, merchants and citizens. I do not know Mr. Griswold's reason for wishing to decry Richmond and excite unnecessary alarm. I do know that his description of our water protection is full of error, misrepresenting, and misleading, which is apt to create wrong impression and alarm, and this is my only reason for replying to his published communication.

CHARLES E. BOLLING,  
Superintendent of Water Works.

Praise for Richmond Composer.

"Music Trades" of recent date contains the following warm praise for the music of Mr. J. C. Eaton, of the Chase-Hackley Piano Company, No. 63 East Broad Street:

"The Old Dominion Music Company of Richmond, Va., are the publishers of 'Devil's Auction' two-step, 'Ping-Pong' waltzes and Lexington March, all by J. C. Eaton. I want to compliment the composer for the excellence of these compositions, which are original, melodious and of the kind that is sure to make a favorable impression when heard. Mr. Eaton is also the composer of Southern Concert waltz, Monticello's fantasia and Nerve waltz, all of which are sell goods."

Wild Turkeys on the Railroad.

A flock of wild turkeys is reported to be circulating in the neighborhood of the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, near Windale, seven miles from the city. The motorman ran across them while making one of his trips the other day, and as he had a friend on board with a gun, the flock was broken up by one bird. The passenger got out, put the bird in his game bag and came to the city.

Run Over Boy's Head.

Edgar Anderson, a little negro boy, was run over this morning at Third and Main Streets by a carriage driven by a lady. The wheels passed directly over the little negro's head, scalping him badly. The vehicle did not stop and its occupants fled. The passer-by saw the accident and taken to his home, back of No. 111 South Second Street.

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